

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 LIMA 09224 201637Z

54

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 MC-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 NIC-01 ACDA-19 IO-14 SAJ-01 DRC-01 /161 W

----- 058891

P R 201548Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8177

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

UNCLAS LIMA 9224

DEPT PLEASE REPEAT TO ALL ARA DIPLOMATIC POSTS

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, PE, US, CI, UR

SUBJ: PERUVIAN PURCHASE OF SOVIET ARMAMENT

1. DURING THE COURSE OF HIS PRESS CONFERENCE YESTERDAY, PRESIDENT VELASCO RATHER MATTER-OF-FACTLY CONFIRMED PERU'S PURCHASE OF SOVIET ARMS. EMBASSY'S INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF OFFICIAL VERSION OF EXCHANGE, AS REPORTED BY EL PERUANO, FOLLOWS:

2. Q: MR. PRESIDENT, A NORTH AMERICAN NEWSPAPER HAS PUBLISHED THAT PERU IS BUYING TANKS FROM THE SOVIET UNION.

A. IT IS TRUE. PERU HAS PURCHASED TANKS FROM THE SOVIET UNION BECAUSE IT IS A SOVERIGN COUNTRY AND AS SUCH CAN BUY THEM IN THE COUNTRY THAT SUITS IT MOST. IF WE NEED TO BUY MATERIAL, WE DO IT. WE ARE NOT GOING TO WAIT WITH OUR HANDS IN OUR POCKETS FOR OTHER COUNTRIES TO DO IT. AS FAR AS THE TYPE OF MATERIAL THAT WAS PURCHASED I CANNOT REVEAL IT FOR OBVIOUS NATIONAL SECURITY REASONS.

BELCHER

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PAGE 02 LIMA 09224 201637Z

NOTE BY OCT: NOT REPEATED TO ARA DIPLOMATIC POSTS.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ARMS, PROCUREMENT, EAST WEST TRADE, TANKS (COMBAT VEHICLES)  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 DEC 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973LIMA09224  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** LIMA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19731213/aaaaajqr.tel  
**Line Count:** 61  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** kellerpr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 12 DEC 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <12-Dec-2001 by williad>; APPROVED <27 FEB 2002 by kellerpr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PERUVIAN PURCHASE OF SOVIET ARMAMENT  
**TAGS:** PFOR, MASS, PE, US, CI, UR  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005